

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached two sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1 and 6B. These sheets, which includes Figures 1 and 6B, replace the original sheets including Figures 1 and 6B. In Figure 1, previously omitted element 236 has been added, element 309 has been deleted, and element 108 has been changed to 150. In Figure 6B, an extraneous element 422 has been deleted.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated February 24, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 24, 2006. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

In the specification, the paragraphs [0029], [0030], [0041], [0045], [0054], [0060], and [0064] have been amended to correct minor editorial problems.

In amended Figures 1 and 6B, the previously omitted element numerals 150 and 236 have been added, while extraneous element numerals 309, 108, and 422 have been deleted.

Claims 1-5 and 8-22 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 6 and 7 have been canceled by Applicants. Claims 16-22 are new. Claims 1-5 and 8-15 stand rejected by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Claims 12 and 15 are amended to correct matters of form. Claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 are amended to clarify the invention. Claims 12 and 15 are amended to delete the word "Teflon" from the claims. Claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 have been amended to require a middle liner configured to reside below the pumping liner and the C-channel liner and a lower liner configured to reside below the middle liner. These amendments are not presented to distinguish a reference, thus, the claims as amended are entitled to a full range of equivalents if not previously amended to distinguish a reference. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 can be found in original claims 6 and 7. Support for newly added claims 16-22 can be found at [0036] and original claim 11.

Claims 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants have deleted the word "Teflon" from the claims. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 – 5 and 8 – 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 01/46498 A3 to *Frijlink*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Frijlink does not disclose a middle liner configured to reside below the pumping liner and the C-channel liner and a lower liner configured to reside below the middle liner because the base plate part 30B closes off a lower portion of the chamber (See Figure 1). Therefore, *Frijlink*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest a middle liner configured to reside below the pumping liner and the C-channel liner and a lower liner configured to reside below the middle liner, as recited in claims 1, 5, and 9 and claims dependent thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) as being unpatentable over WO 01/46498 A3 to *Frijlink* in view of U.S. Patent 6,527,865 B1 to *Sajoto, et al.* (*Sajoto*). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

While Applicants have canceled claims 6 and 7, the arguments regarding claims 1 and 5, as amended, are equally applicable to claims 6 and 7. *Frijlink* does not teach a middle or lower liner in addition to a C-channel liner and a pumping liner. *Sajoto* discloses liners for a chamber. One of ordinary skill in the art would not add two additional liners below the C-channel liner and the pumping liner of *Frijlink* because any middle and lower liners below the C-channel liner and pumping liner would be present in the third space 103. The third space 103 is already isolated from processing space 101 (see page 6, lines 8-15). Therefore, a middle liner and a lower liner below the C-channel liner and the pumping liner is not needed as there is nothing to line and nothing to protect as the Examiner has suggested.

Therefore, *Frijlink* and *Sajoto*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest a middle liner configured to reside below the pumping liner and the C-channel liner and a lower liner configured to reside below the middle liner, as recited in claims 1 and 5, and claims dependent thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over WO 01/46498 A3 to *Frijlink* in view of U.S. Patent 6,527,865 B1 to *Sajoto, et al.*

(*Sajoto*) as applied to claims 1 – 10 above, and further in view of US Patent 6,666,920 B1 to *Sillmon, et al. (Sillmon)*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 11 and 12 depend from claims 9 and 10, which are believed to be allowable as discussed above. Because claims 9 and 10 are believed to be allowable, it is believed that claims 11 and 12 should be allowable as well. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13 – 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 01/46498 A3 to *Frijlink* in view of U.S. Patent 5,911,834 to *Fairbairn, et al. (Fairbairn)*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The references *Frijlink* and *Fairbairn* do not disclose a middle liner configured to reside below the pumping liner and the C-channel liner and a lower liner configured to reside below the middle liner. One of ordinary skill in the art would not add two additional liners below the C-channel liner and the pumping liner because the C-channel and pumping liners identified by the Examiner because any middle and lower lines below the C-channel liner and pumping liner would be present in the third space 103. The third space 103 is already isolated from processing space 101 (see page 6, lines 8-15). Therefore, a middle liner and a lower liner below the C-channel liner and the pumping liner are not needed as there is nothing to line and nothing to protect. Therefore, *Frijlink* and *Fairbairn*, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest a middle liner configured to reside below the pumping liner and the C-channel liner and a lower liner configured to reside below the middle liner, as recited in claim 13, and claims dependent thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 13-15 is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

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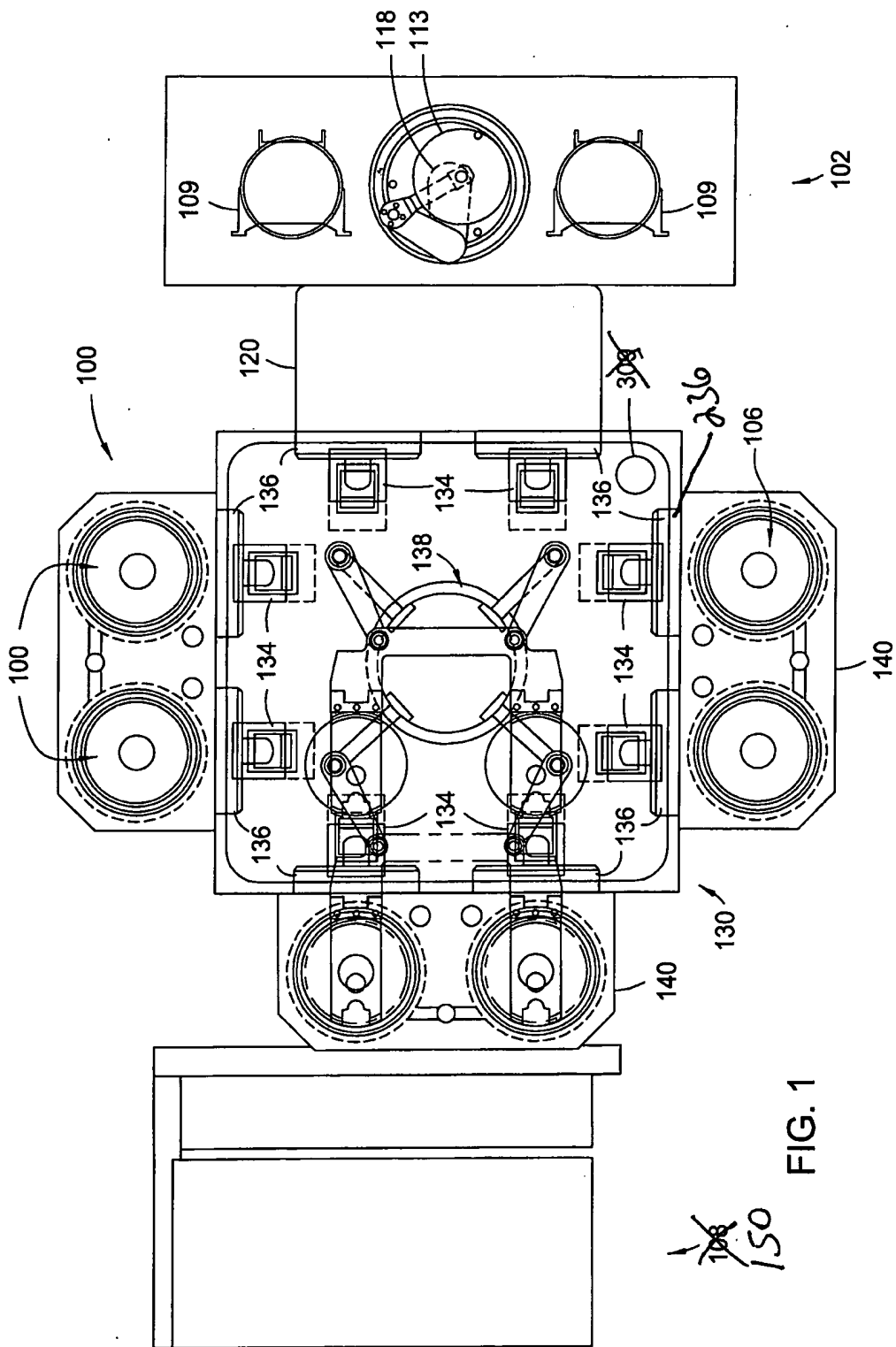


FIG. 1

ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

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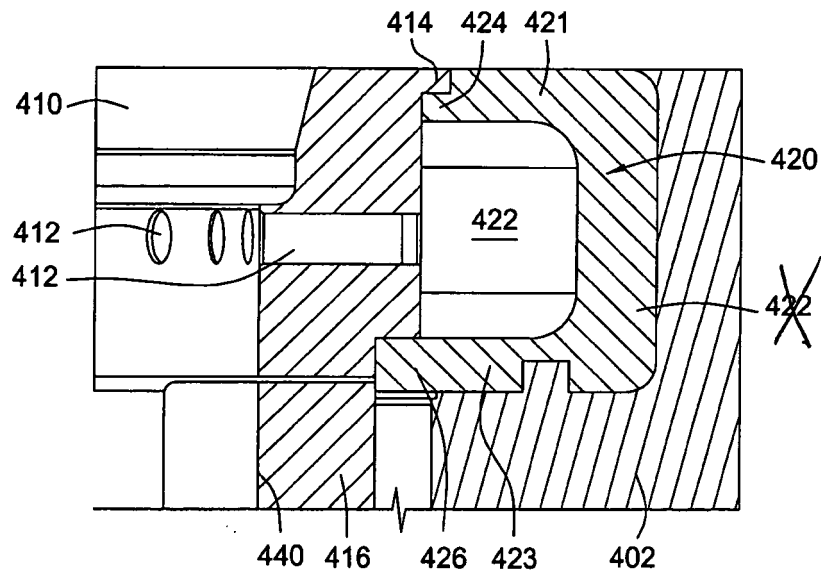


FIG. 6B